X. *An* Account *of what was obſerv'd upon opening the Corpſe of a Perſon who had taken ſeveral Ounces of* crude Mercury *internally*; *and of a* Plumb-Stone *lodg'd in the Coats of the* Rectum. *Communicated in a Letter from the late Dr.* Madden, *Phyſician at* Dublin, *to Sir* Hans Sloane, *Bar. Preſ. R. S.*

SIR,

THE Internal Uſe of *crude Mercury* is become ſo frequent of late, that I believe it may produce ſome great Benefit to Mankind hereafter, if a careful Collection was made of all the extraordinary Caſes relating to the good or bad Effects of this Practice.

There are ſome Circumſtances in the following Caſe, which were not owing to the internal Uſe of *Mercury*; yet there are many others which were undoubtedly occaſioned by it.

Some time ago I was preſent, with Dr. *Robinſon*, and Mr. *Nichols*, our Surgeon-General, at the opening the Body of a Gentleman of Note in this Town, who, for ſeveral Years, had found great Difficulty in going to Stool. This Diſorder increaſed upon him towards the latter End of his Life, and he was ſeized with a violent Diſtemper, of which

I can give you no Deſcription, having never attended him.

In order to procure a Paſſage downward (which I ſuppoſe was a principal Complaint) he took, by the Advice of a Phyſician, ſince dead, ſeveral Ounces of *crude Mercury*, at different times, without any Relief, and at length died.

Upon opening the *Abdomen*, which was very much diſtended, there burſt forth a great Quantity of Wind, though the Guts and Stomach were not wounded.

The Stomach was empty; and upon opening it we found the inner Coat very much inflamed from one End to the other. We obſerved in ſeveral Places of the ſmall Guts, ſome ſcatter'd Grains of *crude Mercury*, and along with them we generally found a black gritty Powder, very like *Æthiops Mineral*, which was, without doubt, the *Mercury* changed into that Conſiſtence.

The *Colon* was diſtended, at its Origin, to twice the Thickneſs that an ordinary Man's Arm has about the Shoulder. This extraordinary Thickneſs extended itſelf about the Length of ten or twelve Inches; from hence it gradually decreaſed, and where it was attached to the Stomach, it had not above a third Part of that Size.

It was much inflamed at its Origin, and contained at leaſt ſix Quarts of liquid Excrement, in which we obſerved *crude Mercury*, and alſo ſome of the black Powder mentioned above.

The *Colon*, where it parted from the Stomach, and diverged toward the left Kidney, adhered about

about the Space of three Inches to the *Omentum*; and upon ſeparating the Adheſion, we found an Abſceſs and Inflammation, which had communicated itſelf to thoſe Parts of the *Ileon*, which were contiguous to the *Colon*.

The *Colon* had in this Place a Perforation about three Quarters of an Inch in Diameter, and four ſmaller Perforations, about the Size of a Goole's Quill, through which ſome Excrement had paſſed into the *Abdomen*.

The Coats of the *Colon*, as it approached the *Inteſtinum rectum*, began to grow ſcirrhous, about the Space of ſix Inches, and the Capacity became gradually ſmaller.

The Valves of the *Colon*, about this Place, were of a reddiſh Colour, and were more ſcirrhous than the other Parts of the *Inteſtine*. The Coats of the *Colon*, where it was continued to the *Rectum*, were at leaſt half an Inch thick, and its Capacity was not above the fourth Part of the natural Size

Upon cutting the Gut horizontally hereabout, we perceived a Body which ſtopped the Paſſage, and ſeemed to the Touch almoſt of a cartilaginous Conſiſtence. Having opened the Gut Lengthways, we found it was no more than two of the *Valvulæ Conniventes Coli*, which were grown ſcirrhous, and were protruded downward into the *Rectum*.

We alſo found a ſmall *Plumb-Stone* in this Place, which was quite buried in the *Tunica Villoſa*, and had made itſelf a Bed between the Coats

of the *Rectum*. It had likewiſe formed a ſmall Abſceſs, which diſcharged itſelf into the Cavity of the *Pelvis*, but had not any Communication with the Cavity of the *Rectum*.

XI. *Obſervatio Eclipſeos Telluris* Romæ *habita in Ædibus Eminentiſſimi* Cardinalis DE-VIA v. Non. *i. e.* d. 3 Maii, N. S. Apr. 22. V. S. MDCCXXXIV. *per* Didacum de Revillas, *Abbat.* Hieronym. *R. S. S. &* Andream Celſium, *R. S. S. Aſtrom Profeſſ.* Upſal. *R. S.* Suec. *Secr.*

Clariſſimo Præſtantiſſimoque Viro
EUSTACHIO MANFREDIO,
Didacus de Revillas, *Abbas* Hieronym.
S. P. D.

TUÆ erga me humanitatis, amoriſque erga Te mei recordationem in animo tuo excitandi, Ornatiſſime Manfredi, per opportunam ſuppeditat occaſionem Solaris Deliquii Obſervatio, quam in jucunda, tibique jam dudum familiari ſeveriorum Muſarum Diatriba, Ædibus nimirum Eminentiſſimi literatorum hominum Mœcenatis Cardinalis DE-VIA, diviſis officiis una cum Doctiſſimo, tuique amantiſſimo Andrea Celſio, Aſtron. Prof. Upſal. habuimus. Hanc ad Te mittendam communi conſilio